



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 75099
18 October 2013

Mr. Jason Gulledge
c/o MuckRock News, DEPT MR 6880
P.O. Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Gulledge:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted via the Internet on 28 September 2013, which was received by this office on 30 September 2013, for "copies of contracts with ClearTrail and any final reports generated and delivered by ClearTrail to the agency over the past 10 years." Your request has been assigned Case Number 75099. For the purpose of fee assessment, you have been placed into the "all other" category for this request. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and 100 pages of duplication at no cost to you. There are no assessable fees for this request; therefore, we did not address your request for a waiver of fees.

Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA. Based on the keyword/name you have provided ("ClearTrail"), a thorough search of our acquisition files was conducted, but no records responsive to your request were located. Information pertaining to contract and acquisition data is not typically stored or retrievable using keywords or "technology and related services" information. Furthermore, there are many instances when contract information is not retrievable by company name alone; some companies may have several locations, or there may be a number variations of the same name based on a name or keyword. DoD Regulation 5400.7-R states that the requester must provide a description of the desired record (i.e. company name with address or contract number, service/award dates, etc.) so that the Government is able to locate the record with a reasonable amount of effort.

The Initial Denial Authority for NSA information is the Associate Director for Policy and Records, David J. Sherman. The fact that we were unable to locate records responsive to your request may be considered by you as an adverse determination, and you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal

procedures. Any person notified of an adverse determination may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days after the date of the initial denial letter. The appeal shall be in writing addressed to the NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority (DJ4), National Security Agency, 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248. To aid in processing the appeal, it should reference the inability of the Agency to locate the records you seek, in sufficient detail and particularity, and the grounds upon which you believe this Agency maintains such records. The NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela N. Phillips", written in a cursive style.

PAMELA N. PHILLIPS
Chief
FOIA/PA Office